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# HEAD-QUARTERS, ARMY OF TENNESSEE,

October 14th, 1863.

## SOLDIERS:

grateful country has recognized your arduous service, and  
ed over your glorious victory on the field of Chickamunga.  
n your countrymen shall more fully learn the adverse cir-  
stances under which you attacked the enemy—though they  
not be more thankful—they may admire more the gallantry  
patriotic devotion which secured your success. Represent-  
atives of every State of the Confederacy, your steps have been  
followed with affectionate solicitude by friends in every portion  
of the country. Defenders of the heart of our territory, your  
movements have been the object of intensest anxiety. The  
hopes of our cause greatly depend upon you, and happy it is  
that all can securely rely upon your achieving whatever, under  
the blessing of Providence, human power can effect. Though  
you have done much, very much yet remains to be done. Be-  
hind you is a people providing for your support and depending  
on you for protection. Before you is a country devastated by  
your ruthless invader, where gentle woman, feeble age and help-  
less infancy have been subjected to outrages without parallel in  
the warfare of civilized nations. With eager eyes they watch  
your coming to their deliverance, and the homeless refugee  
as for the hour when your victorious arms shall restore his  
family to the shelter from which they have been driven. Forced  
to take up arms to vindicate the political rights, the freedom,  
unity and State sovereignty which were the heritage pur-  
chased by the blood of your Revolutionary sires, you have but  
the alternative of slavish submission to despotic usurpation, or  
the independence which vigorous, united, persistent effort will  
secure. All which fires the manly breast, nerves the patriot  
and exalts the hero, is present to stimulate and sustain you.

[SIGNED.]

OFFICIAL.

GEORGE WM. BRENT, A. A. General.

Nobly have you redeemed the pledges given in the name of  
freedom to the memory of your ancestors and the rights of your  
posterity. That you may complete the mission to which you are  
devoted, will require of you such exertion in the future as you  
have made in the past: continuance in the patient endurance of  
toil and danger, and that self-denial which rejects every con-  
sideration at variance with the public service as unworthy of the  
holy cause in which you are engaged.

When the war shall have ended the highest meed of praise  
will be due, and probably given, to him who has claimed least  
for himself in proportion to the service he has rendered, and the  
bitterest self-reproach which may hereafter haunt the memory of  
any one will be to him who has allowed selfish aspiration to  
prevail over a desire for the public good. United as you are in  
a common destiny, obedience and cordial co-operation are essen-  
tially necessary, and there is no higher duty than that which  
requires each to render to all what is due to their station. He  
who sows the seeds of discontent and distrust prepares for the  
harvest of slaughter and defeat.

To zeal you have added gallantry; to gallantry, energy; to  
energy, fortitude. Crown these with harmony, due subordina-  
tion and cheerful support of lawful authority, that the measure  
of your duty may be full. I fervently hope that the ferocious  
war, so unjustly waged against our country, may be soon ended,  
that, with the blessing of peace, you may be restored to your  
homes and the useful pursuits; and I pray that our Heavenly  
Father may cover you with the shield of His protection in the  
hours of battle, and endow you with the virtues which will close  
your trials in victory complete.

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

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